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IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure originally filed with the above-identified patent application with the following Abstract:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A branching filter and a communication device ~~having~~have excellent characteristics are provided in which ~~the~~an ~~and~~an optimized configuration of the ~~a~~ transmitting filter and ~~the~~a receiving filter ~~is~~is optimized. The branching filter includes a transmitting filter 5 and a receiving filter 6 wherein piezoelectric thin film resonators 11a, 11b, 12a, 12b, 21a to 21c, and 22a to 22d including a piezoelectric thin film sandwiched between ~~faceing~~opposed electrodes are ~~disposed~~arranged in a ladder ~~type~~type ~~configuration~~ on an opening or a recess of a substrate. The transmitting filter 5 and the receiving filter 6 are connected ~~in parallel~~ to an antenna terminal 3 ~~in parallel~~. The piezoelectric thin film resonators 11a, 11b, 12a, and 12b ~~forming~~defining the transmitting filter 5 and the piezoelectric thin film resonators 21a to 21c and 22a to 22d ~~forming~~defining the receiving filter 6 are different from each other.